

STARBLAZER

FANTASY FICTION IN PICTURES No. 280

35p

CARTER
and the
CRAZIES



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01

**DON'T
MISS**

**THIS MONTH'S OTHER
ACTION-PACKED
ADVENTURE**



NOW ON SALE

CARTER AND THE CRAZIES

LOCATION: SPECIAL UNIT 5. DELOS HIGH SECURITY PRISON COMPLEX.
STARMAP CO-ORDINATES: 43766.09/S-D4-Z-FM-0022.

CLASSIFICATION: FEDERATION PENAL GRADE ALPHA-ONE.

INMATE POPULATION: 240 SOCIAL DEVIANTS WHO HAVE NOT RESPONDED TO PSYCHO-NEURAL TREATMENT.

REMARKS: ALL INMATES SERVING 120 YEAR SENTENCES, WITH NO REMISSION OR PAROLE.



4

UNIT 5 HELD THE WORST SCUM IN THE GALAXY — AND THE WORST OF THESE WERE THE RIZZAN TWINS, KALEB AND DAVID ...

I LOVE THIS PLACE!

HOME SWEET HOME!

CRAZIES! RIGHT OFF THEIR TINY HEADS.

CLUCK! CLUCK! CLUCK!

MY BROTHER KALEB'S GONNA LAY AN EGG FOR YOU!

UNIT FIVE TO SECURITY ... I NEED BACK-UP, THE RIZZAN CRAZIES ARE WORSE THAN USUAL.



6
IT WAS NO ORDINARY EGG ... IT
WAS A HOMEMADE GRENADE!

AAAAGGGGHHHH!

URRRGGGGHHHHH!

DAVID TOOK AN ELECTRONIC KEY FROM ONE OF THE
DEAD GUARDS AND OPENED A CELL DOOR ...

ARE YOU COMING, MANDROID?
WE NEED SOMEONE LIKE YOU IF
WE'RE GONNA BUST OUT OF THIS
SEWER!

TWO DAYS LATER, IN A CITY 23.8 PARSECS AWAY, CARTER AND NOLAN WERE WAITING FOR A ROBBERY TO HAPPEN....

WE'VE BEEN HERE FOR HOURS. I JUST HOPE YOUR INFORMANT GOT THE RIGHT DAY, THAT'S ALL.



I THINK WE SHOULD PACK IT IN!

SHUT IT, NOLAN! WE WAIT!

THEY WAITED—

CLUB
SHO

GREAT! NOW IT'S
STARTED TO RAIN.

WELL, YOU'LL GET WET —
THAT'S OUR MAN!

CONTROL TO CARTER...
RETURN TO
HEADQUARTERS
IMMEDIATELY. CODE
ALPHA-RED.

I CAN'T
HEAR YOU!

HQ WILL HAVE TO WAIT.

HE IGNORES EVERY
PROCEDURE... THIS
SHOULD BE A LOCAL
POLICE JOB.



CARTER COMPLETED THE BOOKING AND WAS SUMMONED BY AN ANGRY COMMANDER.

YOU IGNORED A CALL EARLIER! THE RIZZAN TWINS HAVE SCAPED FROM DELOS.

THE RIZZAN TWINS?

A COUPLE OF PSYCHOPATHS WHO LOVE TO KILL PEOPLE. THEY'D KILL THEMSELVES IF THEY THOUGHT THEY COULD GET PLEASURE OUT OF IT.



AS CARTER LEARNED ABOUT ZARNOV, THE ASSASSIN FLEW A STOLEN SPACE BUS.



TELL ME, HOW DID YOU GET
HOLD OF THE EXPLOSIVES?

MA BAKED THEM
IN A CAKE!

MA ALWAYS WAS A ROTTEN COOK!



THEN WHY DID YOU NEED ME
ON THE BREAKOUT?

YOU CAN FLY ONE OF
THESE THINGS — WE
CAN'T.



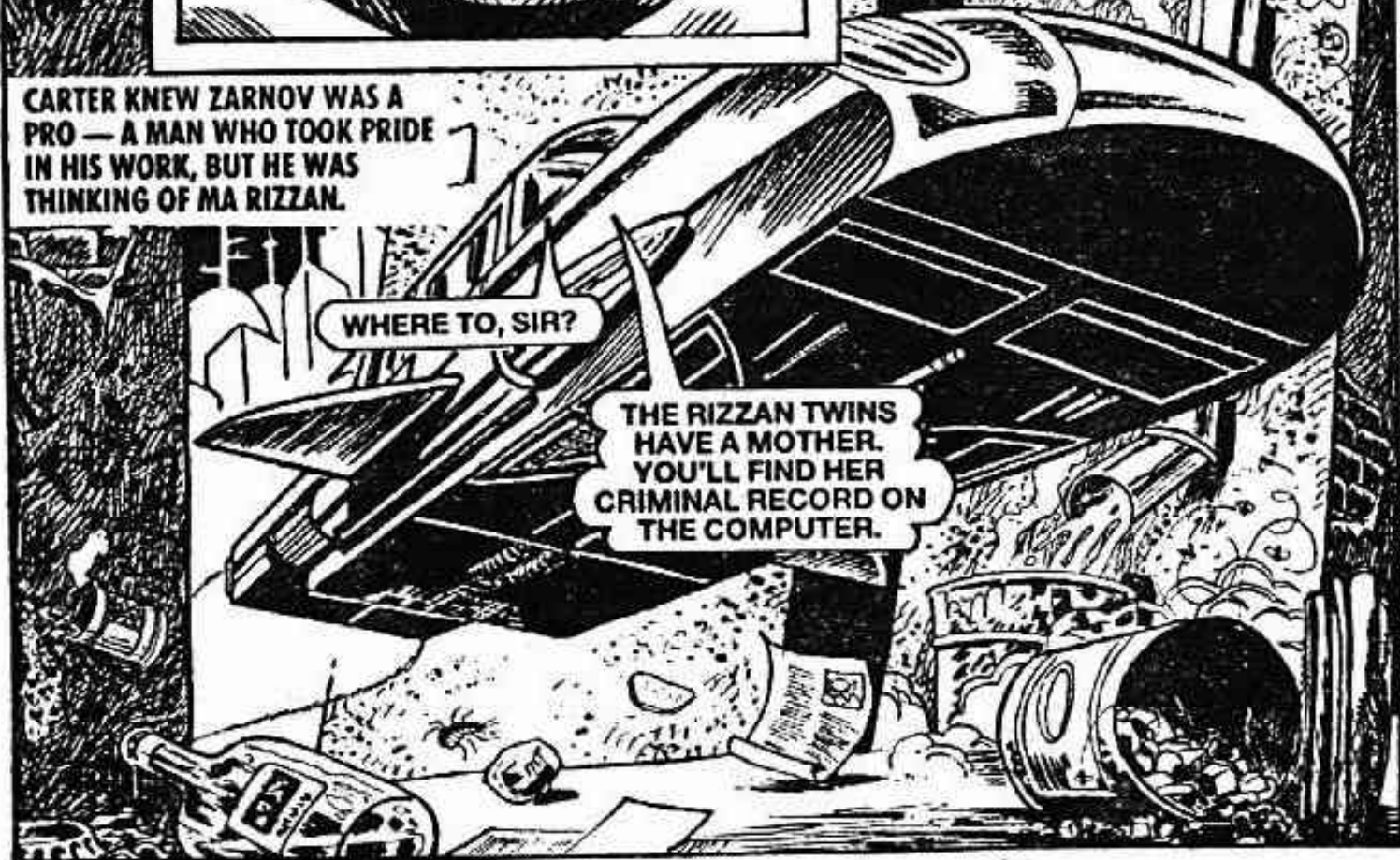
I'M A HIGHLY SKILLED PROFESSIONAL, BUT THESE TWO ARE JUST A COUPLE OF CRAZY KILLERS. THEY'RE THE LOWEST OF THE LOW.



CARTER KNEW ZARNOV WAS A PRO — A MAN WHO TOOK PRIDE IN HIS WORK, BUT HE WAS THINKING OF MA RIZZAN.

WHERE TO, SIR?

THE RIZZAN TWINS HAVE A MOTHER. YOU'LL FIND HER CRIMINAL RECORD ON THE COMPUTER.

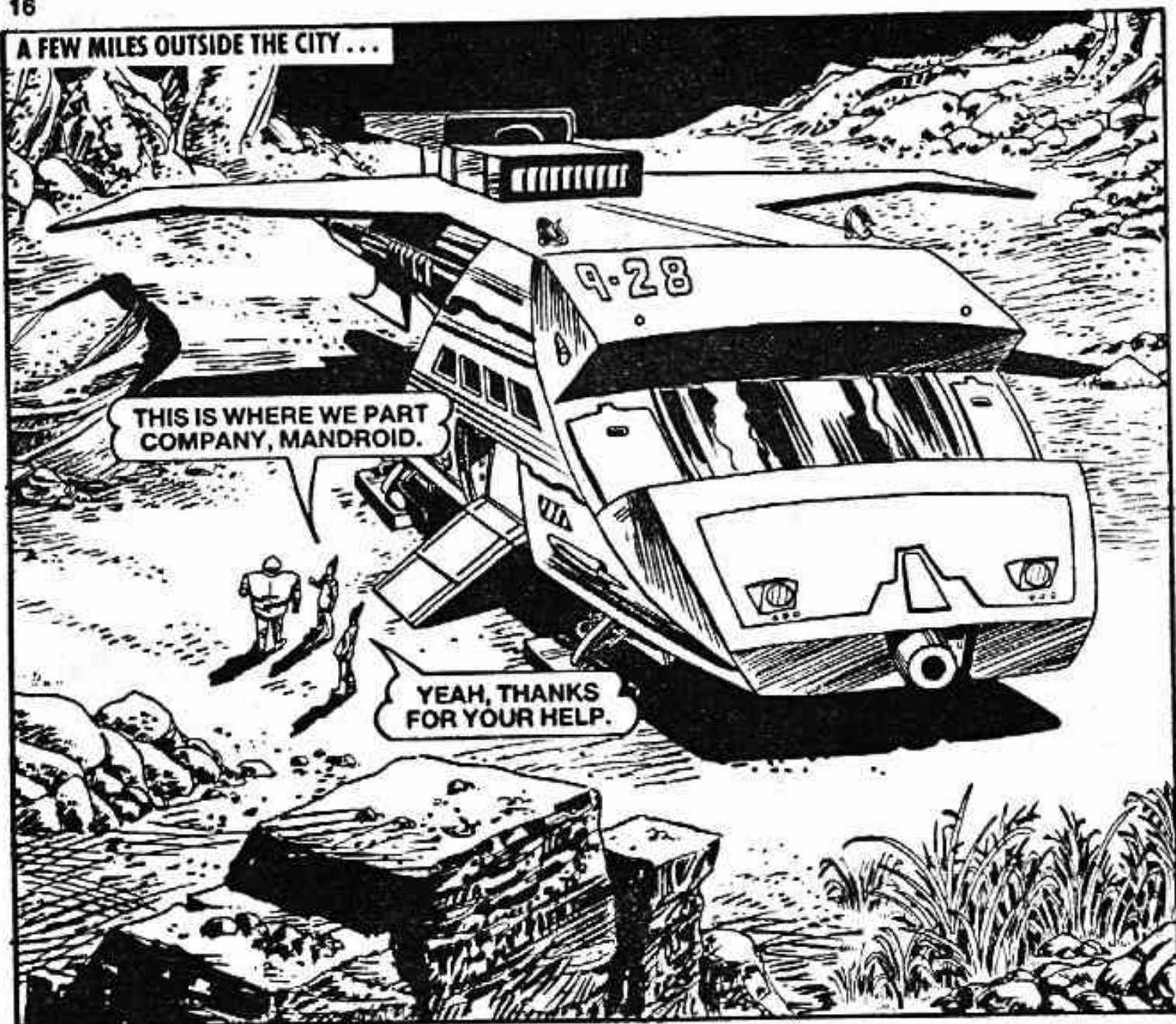








A FEW MILES OUTSIDE THE CITY ...



THIS IS WHERE WE PART
COMPANY, MANDROID.

YEAH, THANKS
FOR YOUR HELP.



YOU GO FIRST! I HAVE
NO INTENTION OF
LETTING YOU TWO GET
BEHIND ME.

HE DOESN'T TRUST
US, KALEB!

I WONDER WHY? MAYBE HE
KNOWS A MANDROID'S THE ONLY
KIND OF PERSON WE AIN'T KILLED
YET! HA! HA! HA!

WHEN CARTER AND NOLAN
REPORTED BACK TO HQ—

CONGRATULATIONS! BY
NOW EVERY NEWS STATION
IN THE GALAXY WILL HAVE
THE STORY ABOUT SOME
OLD WOMAN GETTING THE
BETTER OF CARTER.

I HAD MY ...

CAN IT, CARTER! I'M LETTING
O'MALLIGAN DEAL WITH MA RIZZAN
AND HER TERRIBLE TWINS. I WANT
YOU TO CONCENTRATE ON THIS
MANDROID TERMINATOR! NOW GET
OUT OF MY OFFICE!


WE'RE NOT GOING TO
LIVE THIS DOWN, SIR!

YES, WE WILL ... MA
RIZZAN WILL BE A HARD
OLD BAG TO CATCH.

AT A MEDICAL LABORATORY ON
THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CITY ...

BY NOW EVERY POLICEMAN
WILL HAVE MY
DESCRIPTION. IT'S TIME I
CHANGED MY APPEARANCE
AGAIN.

YOU KNOW
MY FEE!





ZARNOV WAS A MANDROID — AN ADVANCED MANDROID. USING LASER MICROBEAM TECHNOLOGY, NEW FACIAL FEATURES WERE SPEEDILY BUILT OVER HIS OLD FACE.

THAT'S THE JOB DONE... IT'LL COST YOU HALF A MILLION CREDITS. YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN CHEAPER HEADING FOR ANOTHER PLANET.

TRUE...



... BUT I HAVE SOME
UNFINISHED BUSINESS
AND THEREFORE MY
OWN SAFETY MUST
TAKE SECOND PLACE.

AN HOUR LATER, IN AN ALLEY
NEAR THE CITY CENTRE...

SHENKLY HERE. I'VE
FINISHED AT THE BANK
AND NOW I'M GOING TO
FIX THAT GLITCH IN THE
POLICE
HEADQUARTERS
CENTRAL COMPUTER.

IF IT RUNS INTO OVERTIME
FILL OUT A 557EO.







CARTER DREW HIS BLASTER, AND FIRED A FULL MAGAZINE ...





THE WITNESS WAS GIVEN A NEW IDENTITY AND RELOCATED. IN THEORY HIS WHEREABOUTS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE TOP SECRET — BUT ZARNOV IS A MANDROID — AND NO COMPUTER IS SAFE FROM HIM.







ZARNOV HAD HOPED HE WOULDN'T BE DISTURBED — BUT EVEN THE BEST PLANS CAN GO WRONG.

HAVE YOU FINISHED YET? WE HAVE TO GET THE PAYROLL OUT AND I DON'T FANCY FACING 45,000 ANGRY COPS!





LATER, ON A PLANET IN A FAR
OFF SOLAR SYSTEM...



ZARNOV HAD BEEN HIRED TO TERMINATE ME. I GOT TO HEAR ABOUT IT AND TURNED MYSELF IN TO THE COPS.

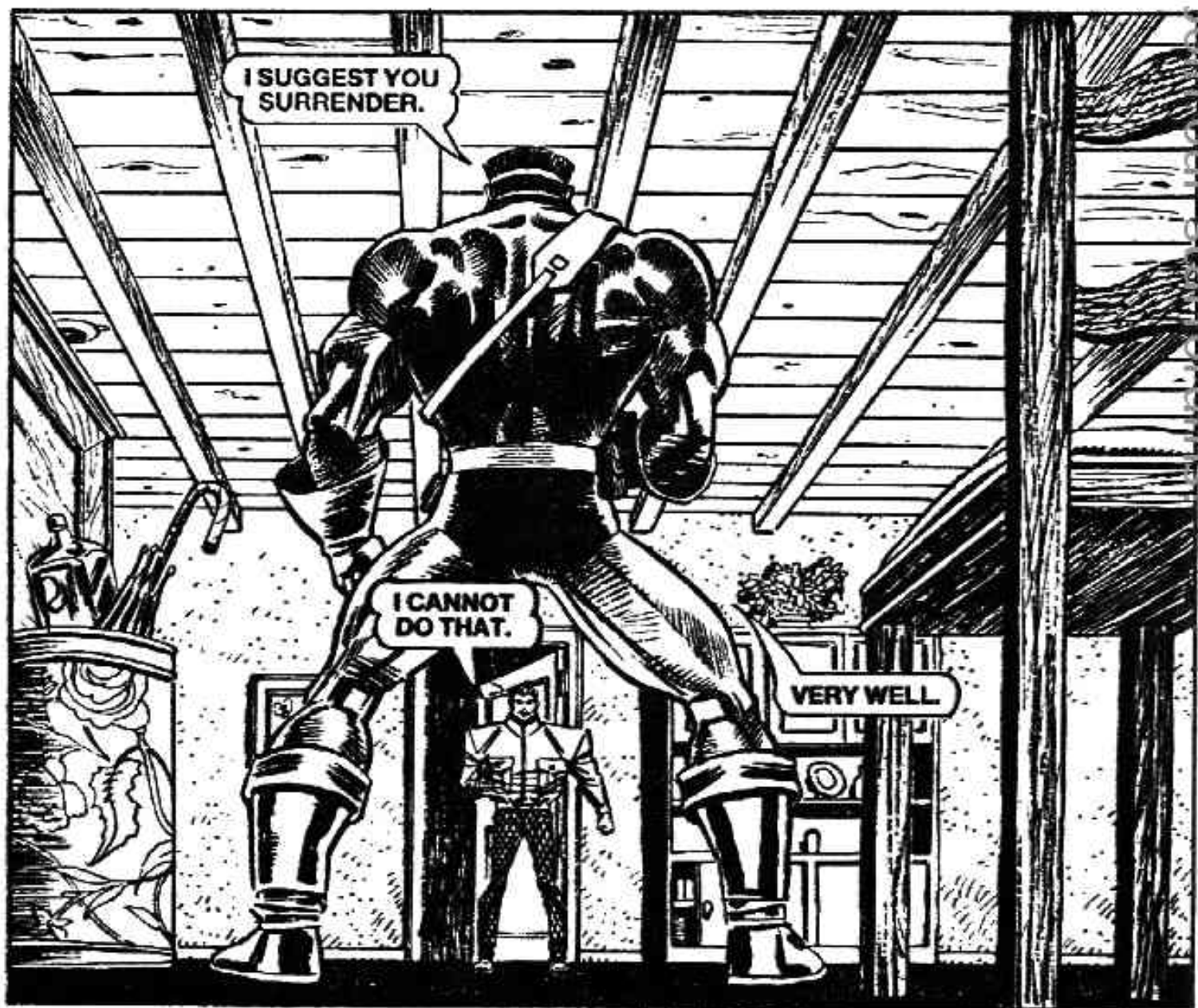
AND ZARNOV IS OUT TO KILL YOU BECAUSE YOU BECAME THE CHIEF PROSECUTION WITNESS AGAINST HIM.

NO! ZARNOV HAS NO EMOTIONS AND THEREFORE BEARS NO GRUDGE. HOWEVER, BEING A PROFESSIONAL, HE MERELY WISHES TO CARRY OUT THE JOB HE WAS PAID TO DO.

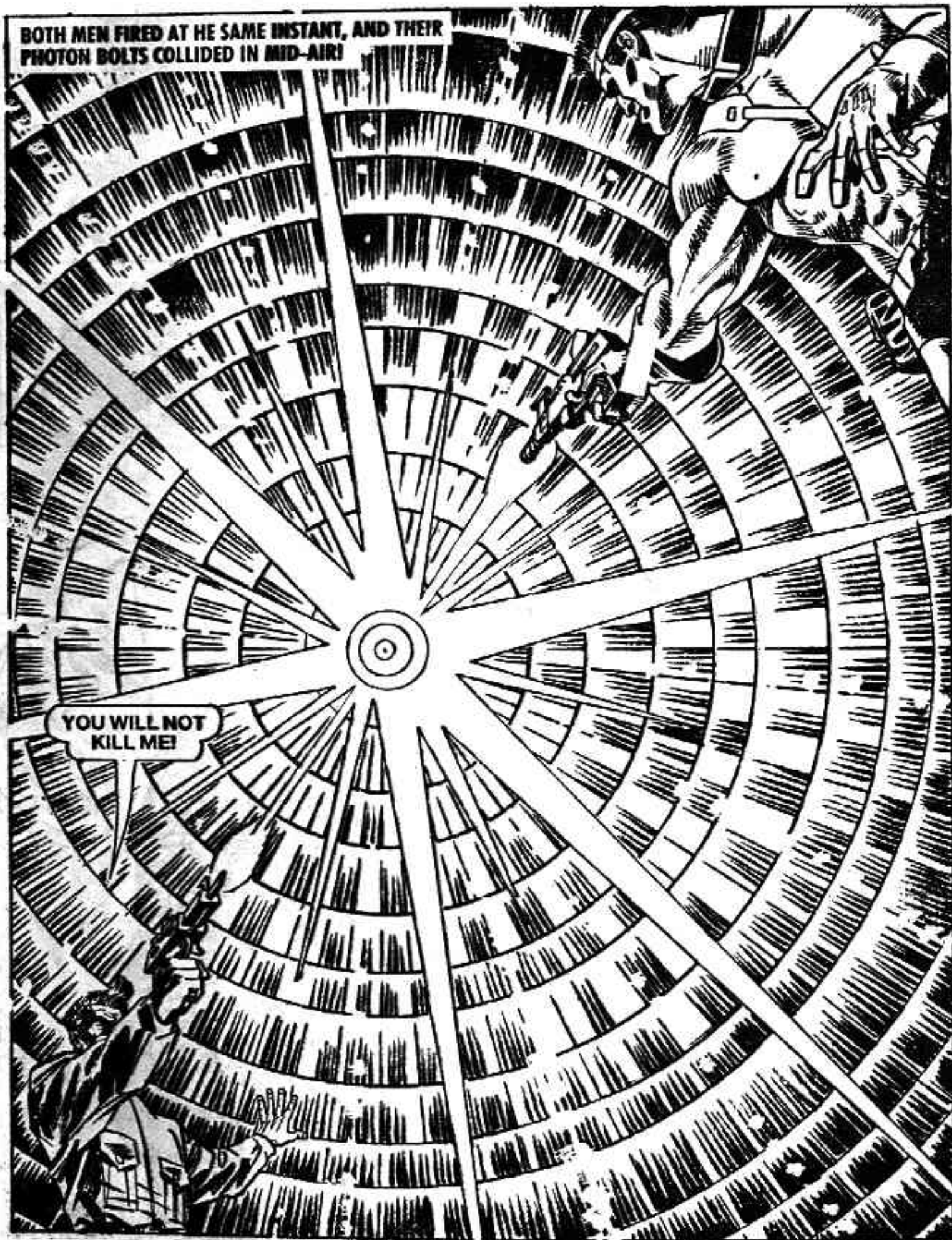
TWO DAYS LATER ANOTHER VISITOR ARRIVED AT THE HOUSE...

I AM HERE TO TERMINATE YOU, MR AXON.





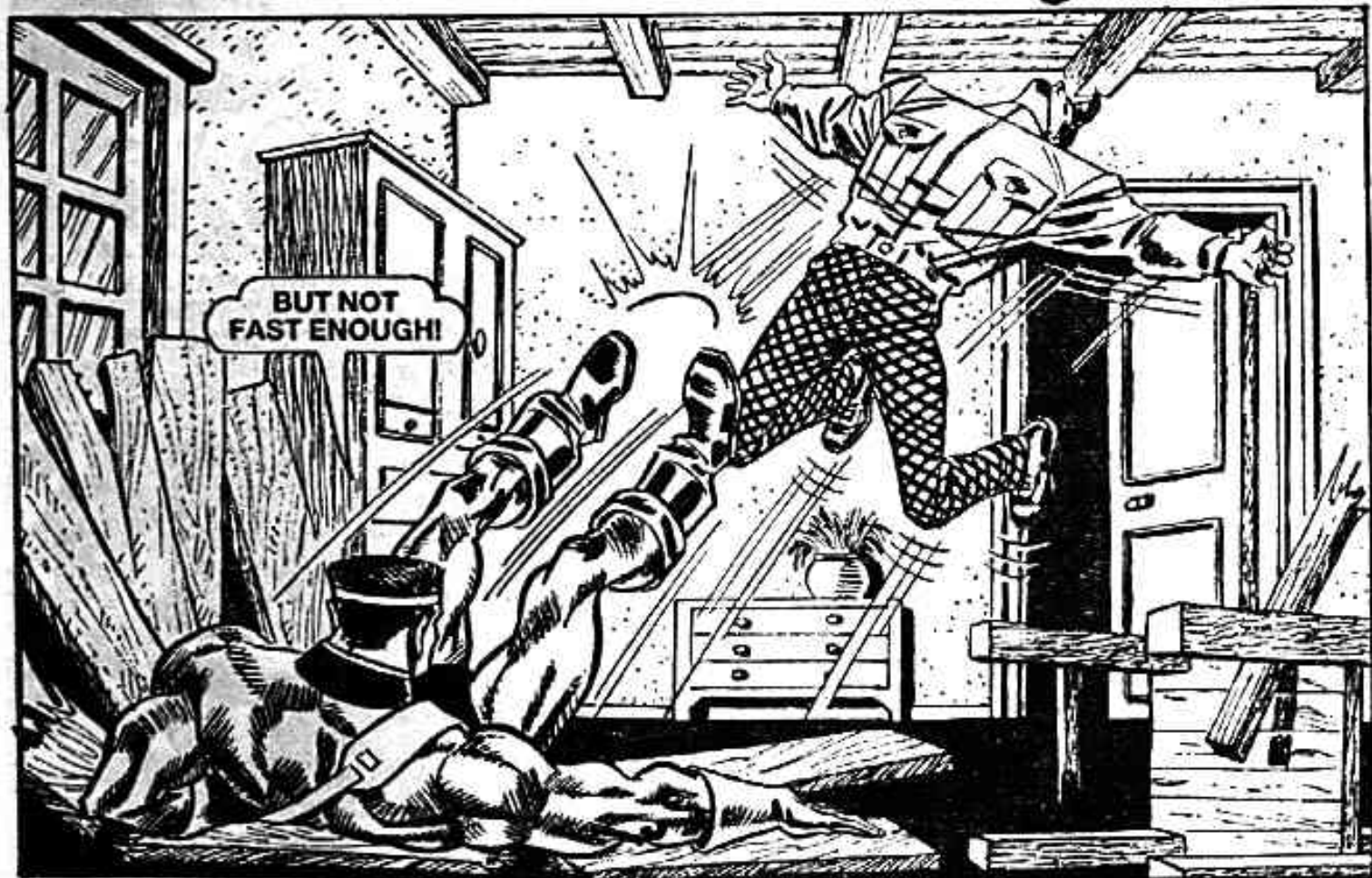
**BOTH MEN FIRED AT THE SAME INSTANT, AND THEIR
PHOTON BOLTS COLLIDED IN MID-AIR!**






AT UNARMED COMBAT CARTER SEEMED TO HAVE THE EDGE. THE REASON WAS SIMPLE — HE HADN'T SPENT THE LAST SIX YEARS SITTING IN A PRISON CELL.












READY TO GIVE
UP, ZARNOV?

I'VE ONLY JUST
STARTED, CARTER!



THEY CAN'T TAKE
MUCH MORE!



AT THAT MOMENT, IN A CAVE ON
ANOTHER PLANET...

I HEARD SOMETHING
MOVING ABOUT
OUTSIDE!

LET'S HOPE IT'S AN
ANIMAL AND IT'S
EDIBLE — I'M
STARVING!



MAI

YOU WEREN'T GOING
TO SHOOT YOUR DEAR
OLD MOTHER, WERE
YOU?



MA RIZZAN HAD COLLECTED
QUITE AN ARSENAL.

BUT CARTER HAD LET MA ESCAPE KNOWING SHE WOULD
HEAD FOR A RENDEZVOUS WITH HER SONS.

I'M SENIOR LAW
ENFORCEMENT
OFFICER O'MALLIGAN
AND YOU'RE UNDER
ARREST!

DROP THOSE WEAPONS
AND RAISE YOUR HANDS!

BY THE TIME WE'VE
FINISHED,
EVERYONE IN THE
GALAXY WILL HAVE
HEARD OF THE MA
RIZZAN GANG!





MA RIZZAN'S RECOVERY WAS SWIFT AND DEADLY AS SHE
DREW A PISTOL HIDDEN UNDER HER JACKET...








NEGATIVE, CARTER. YOUR
ORDERS ARE TO TAKE
ZARNOV TO DELOS.




O'MALLIGAN WAS A GOOD
MAN. I KNEW HIS WIFE AND
KIDS.

IF YOU WANT THE RIZZAN
TWINS I CAN HELP YOU,
CARTER.



WHY WOULD YOU
WANT TO HELP?

BECAUSE THE RIZZANS ARE
SCUM — A DISGRACE TO THE
TRADE OF PROFESSIONAL KILLING.
I SPENT SIX YEARS WITH THE
RIZZAN TWINS AND I KNOW HOW
THEY THINK . . . DO YOU?



I CAN GET A PSYCHIATRIC
PROFILE ON THEM. IT WILL TELL
ME ALL I NEED TO KNOW.

CRAPOLA, CARTER! A
PSYCHIATRIC PROFILE WILL
TELL YOU ZILCH!



AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN
THE CITY OF MEDAS...



SUDDENLY, KALEB RIZZAN
EXPLODED IN A MIXTURE OF
PURE HATRED AND RAGE!



ROBBING THE BANK
IN MEDAS IS
MERELY A BIT OF
UNFINISHED
BUSINESS,
BECAUSE IT'S THE
ONE THEY WERE
GOING TO ROB
BEFORE THEY
WERE CAPTURED.
THEY WILL THEN
STEAL A SHIP AND
MAKE THEIR
ESCAPE.

THEY WILL SHAKE
OFF ANY
PURSUERS IN THE
ASTEROID BELT
AND HEAD FOR THE
DEAD ZONE.

WE DID IT, MA!

OUR ORDERS ARE
TO DELIVER THE
PRISONER TO
DELOS.

REPORTS OF THE ATROCITY
WERE FLASHED TO ALL
POLICE UNITS IN THE
GALACTIC SECTOR ...

TWENTY-FIVE
UNARMED PEOPLE
GUNNED DOWN IN
COLD BLOOD!

HOWEVER, WE CAN PICK OUR OWN ROUTE — THROUGH THE DEAD ZONE.

THE DEAD ZONE — AN AREA OF THE GALAXY CLOSE TO A BLACK HOLE OF THE 10TH MAGNITUDE. A PLACE PRONE TO WORMHOLES IN SPACE, TIME-WARPS, AND VARIOUS OTHER DESTRUCTIVE ABNORMALITIES IN THE LAWS OF PHYSICS ...

INSTRUMENTS READING NORMAL, SIR.

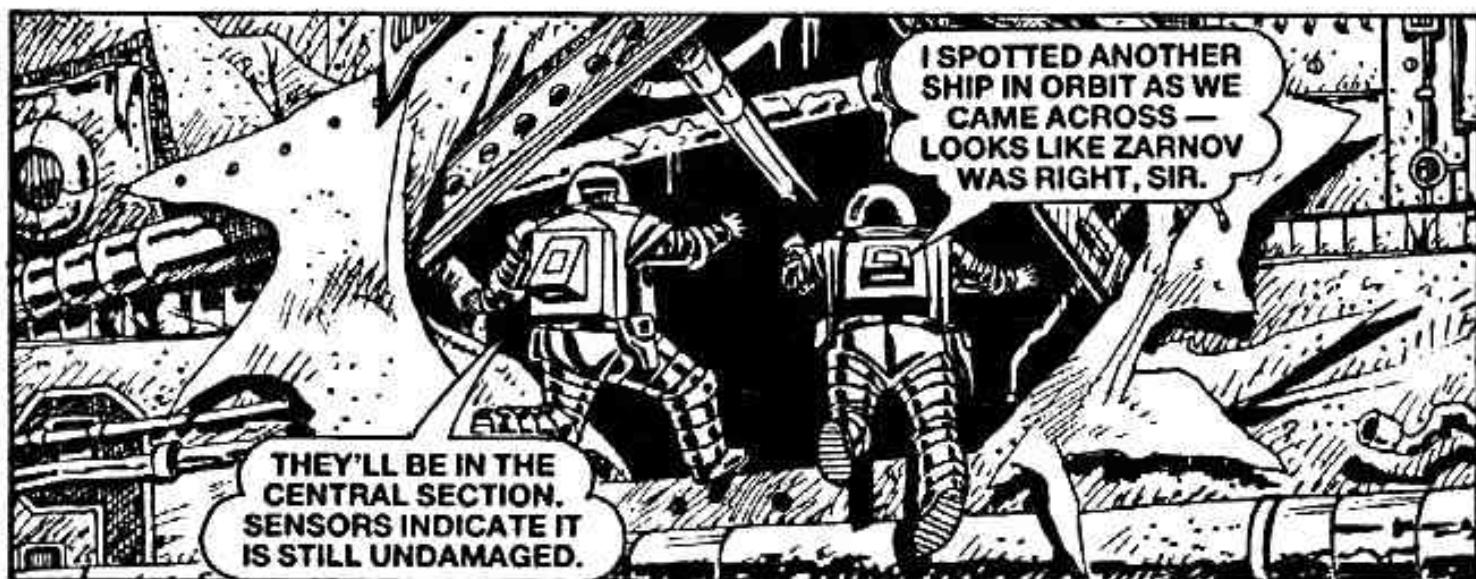
BUT FOR HOW LONG?



ZARNOV TOLD CARTER THAT THE RIZZAN GANG WERE HIDING OUT IN A GIANT DESERTED SPACE STATION WHICH HAD BEEN SUCKED INTO THE DEAD ZONE.

DOCKING BAYS HAVE BEEN SHOT TO PIECES, SIR!

WE'LL SUIT UP AND SPACEWALK ACROSS. PUT THE SHIP IN PARKING ORBIT.

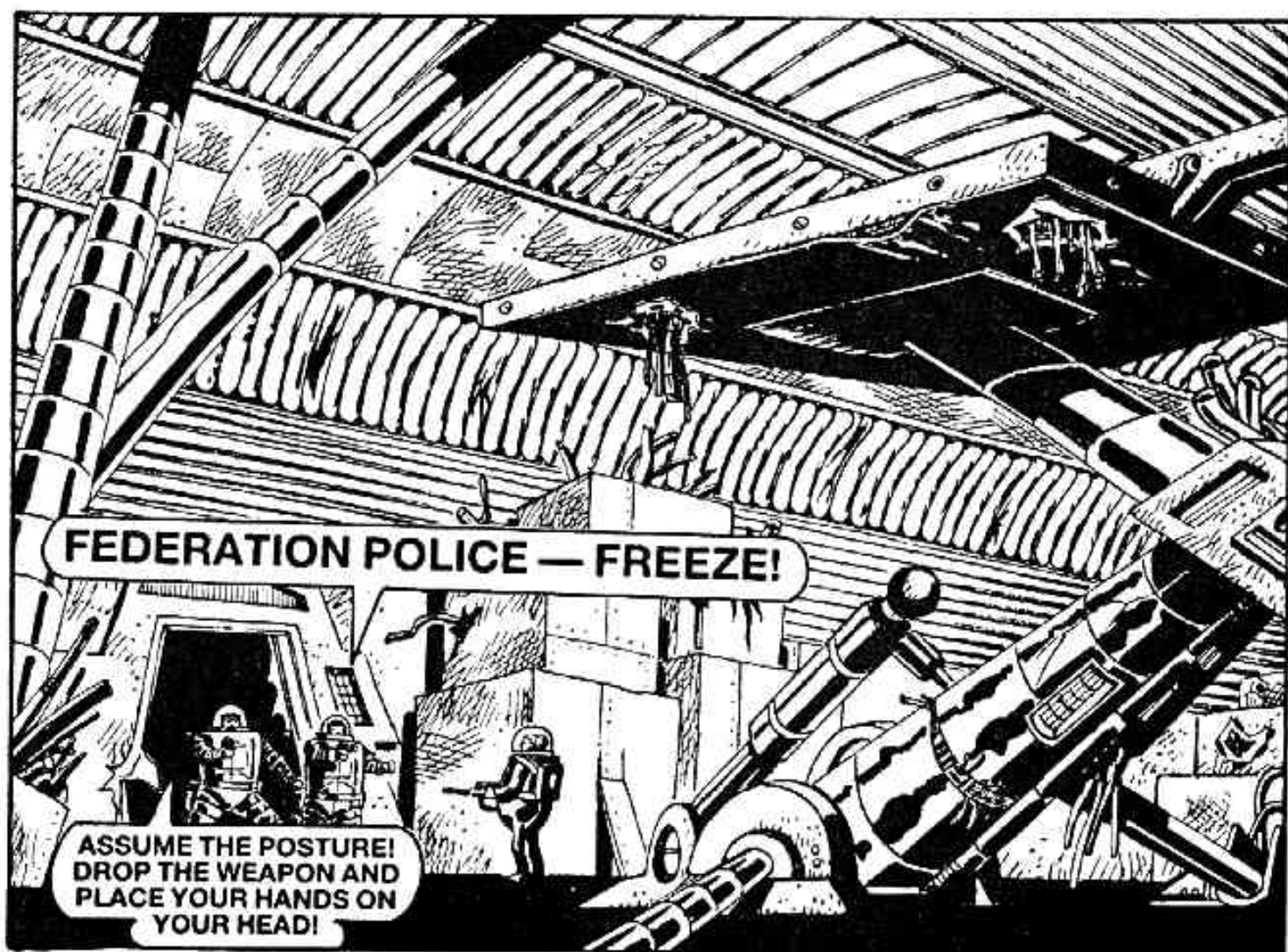


MEANWHILE, ZARNOV WAS USING ONE OF HIS ENGINEERED POWERS FOR HIS OWN ADVANTAGE —

THIS IS A LITTLE TRICK I HAVE MANAGED TO KEEP SECRET FROM THE AUTHORITIES — NOW WHERE'S THE DATABASE?

BY FUSING HIS MIND WITH THAT OF THE SHIP'S CENTRAL COMPUTER, ZARNOV WAS ABLE TO ACTIVATE THE LOCK ON THE CELL DOOR.

CARTER IS A MANDROID. HE WILL HUNT ME DOWN NO MATTER WHERE I GO, BECAUSE THAT IS HIS PRIMARY TASK. HE'LL BE AFTER ME FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE UNLESS I TAKE CARE OF HIM FIRST.





CARTER RAISED HIS PISTOL AND FIRED!

AAAAAAGGGGGGGHHHHH!

WHAT THE ... !!!?
CARTER!!

CONCEALED WEAPON —
OLDEST TRICK IN THE
BOOK. SHE'S ... WAS ... A
MURDERING OLD HAG.

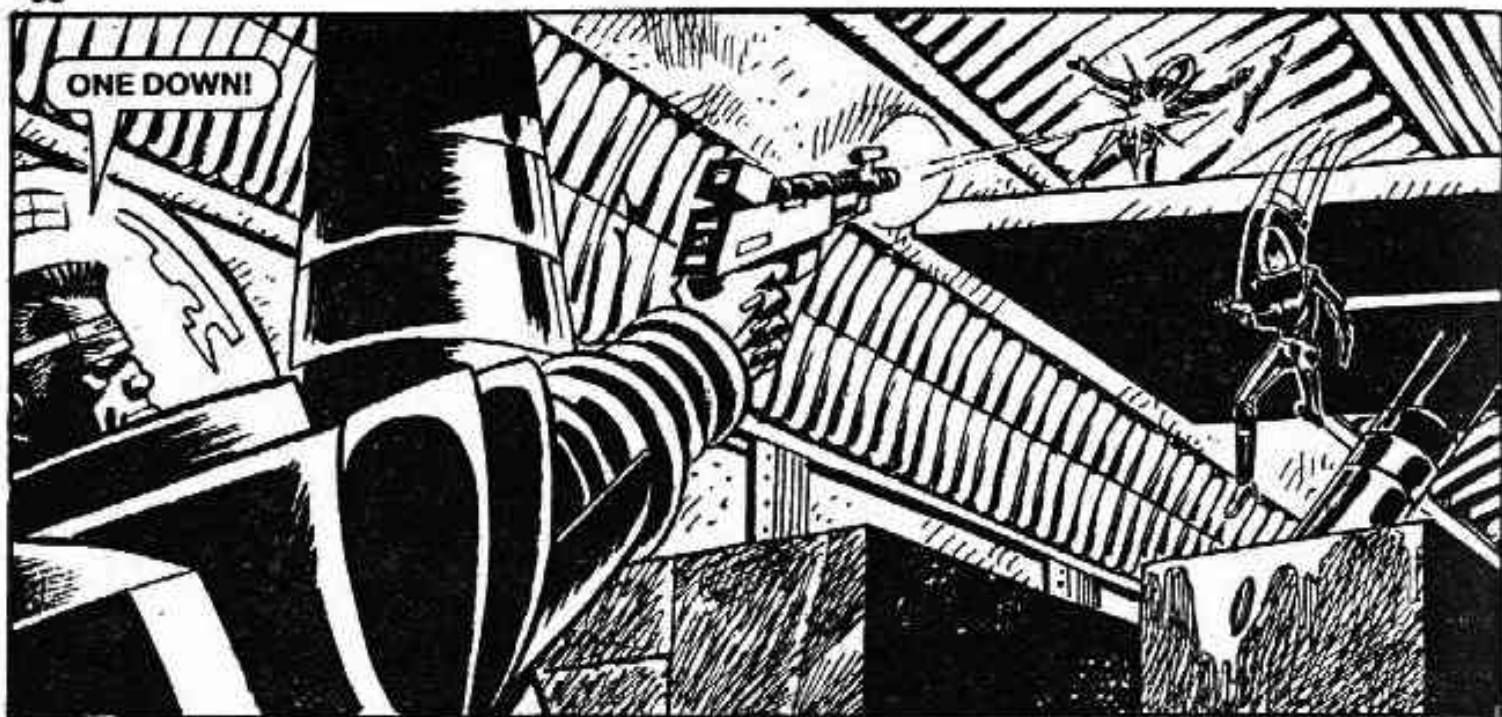
GUESS SO! SHE
LOOKED LIKE MY GRANNY!

YOU KILLED
MY MA!

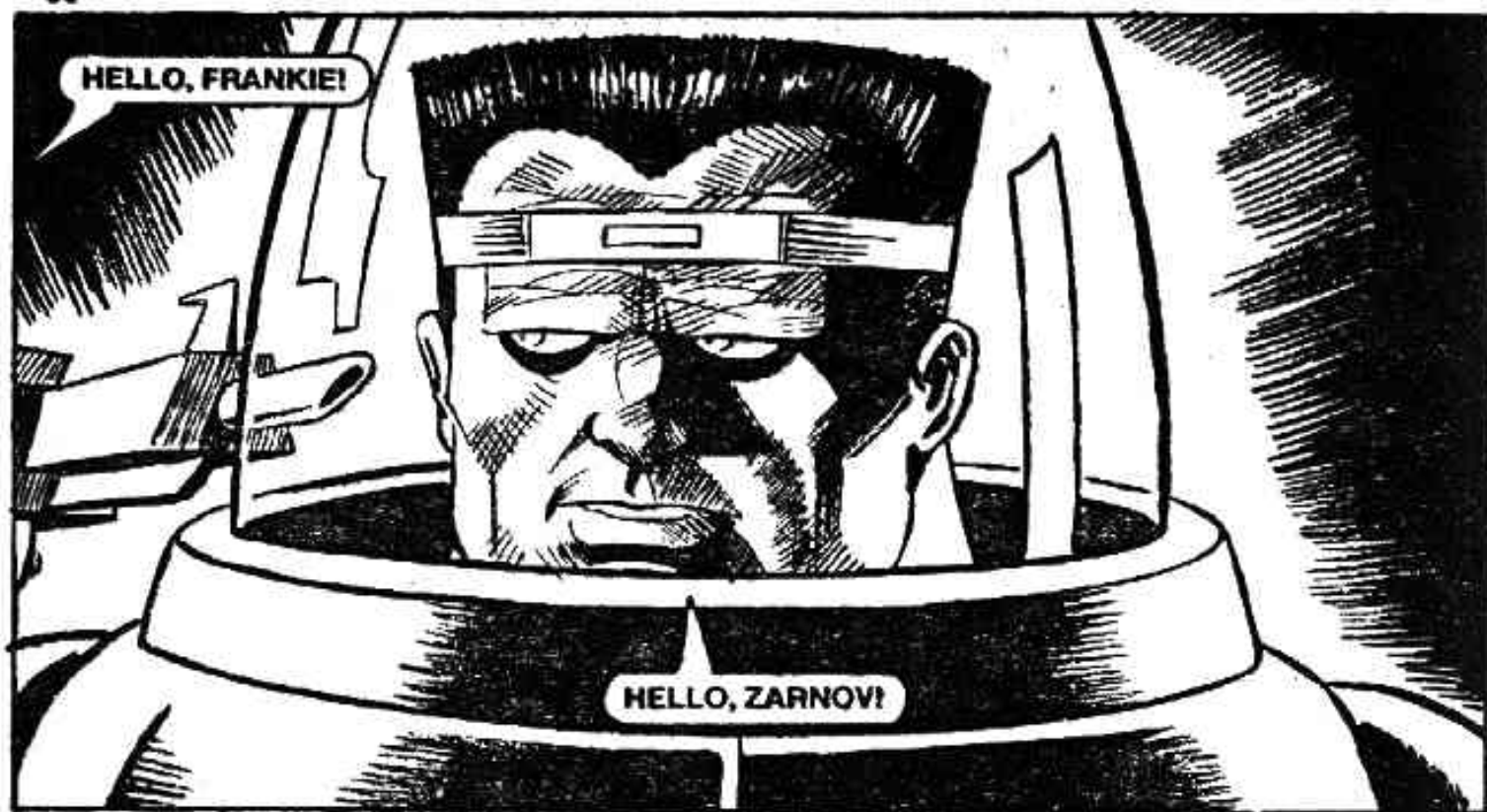
CARTER'S EXTRA FINELY TUNED SENSES
WARNED HIM OF SOMETHING NASTY,
AND HE HAD ONLY JUST ENOUGH TIME
TO REACT BY PUSHING NOLAN.











WOUNDED AND GROGGY, NOLAN STILL
HAD ENOUGH LEFT TO STRIKE ZARNOV.

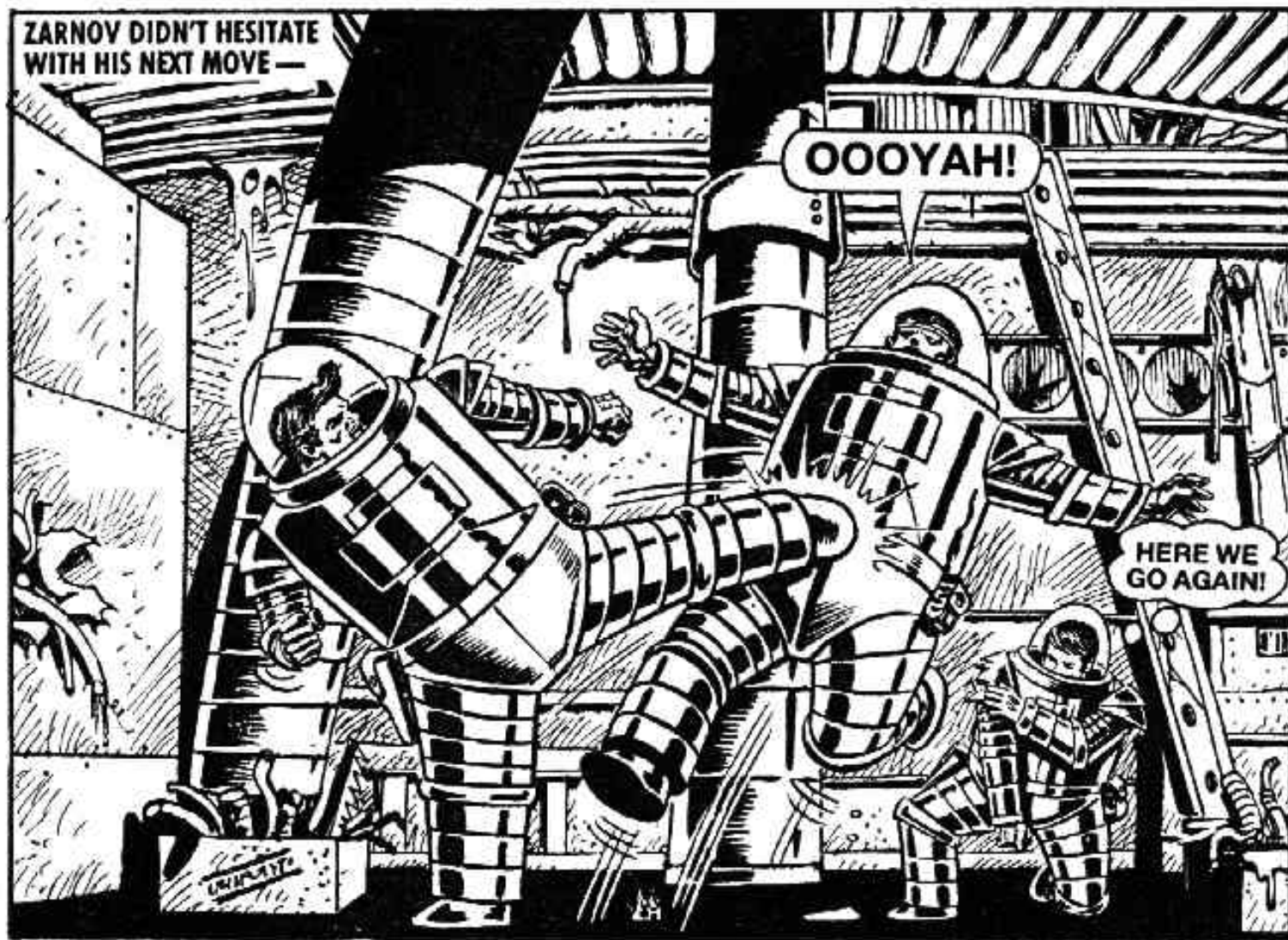
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE
HESITATED, ZARNOV!



ZARNOV DIDN'T HESITATE
WITH HIS NEXT MOVE —

OOOYAH!

HERE WE
GO AGAIN!



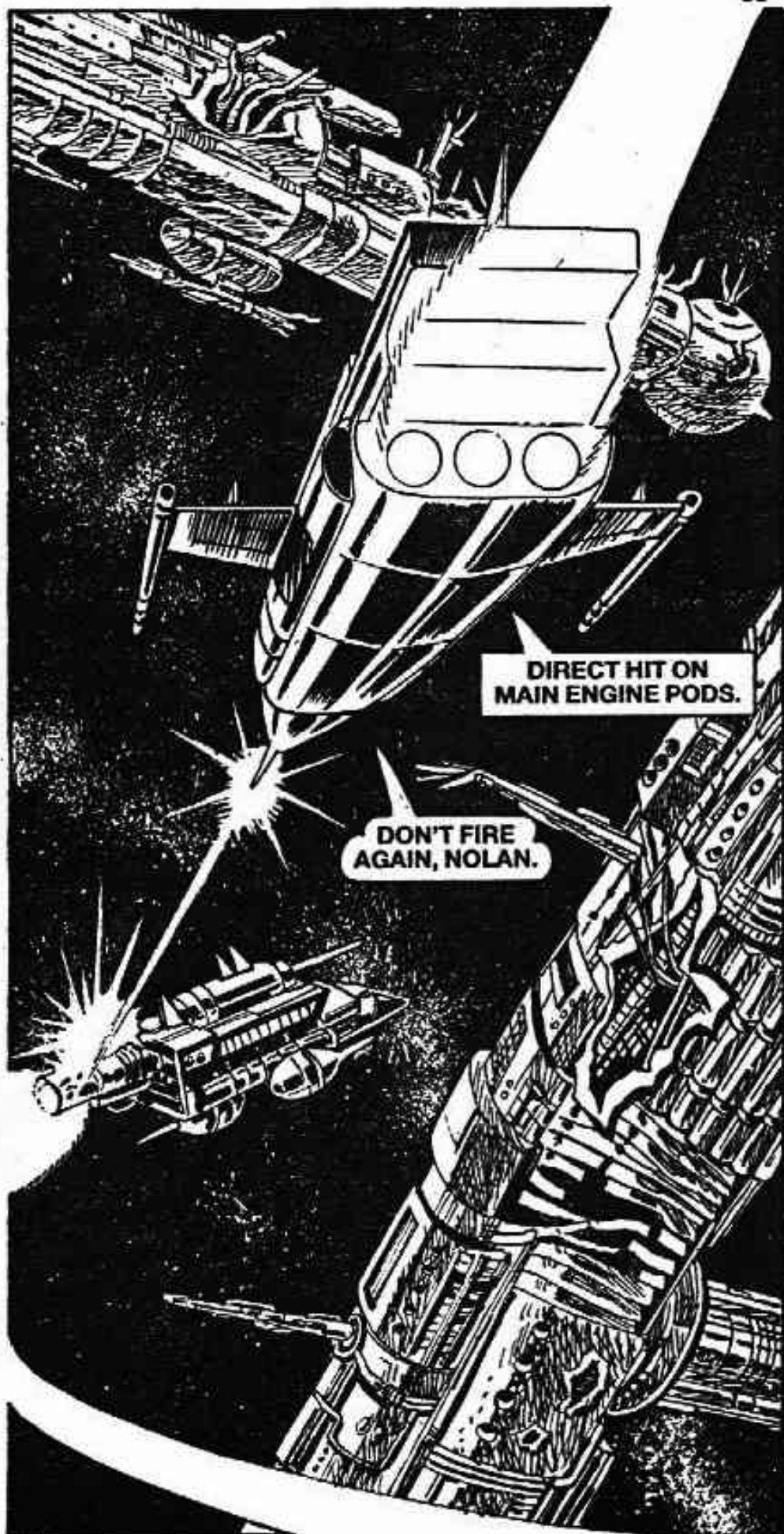
BUT ZARNOV DECIDED TO
MAKE A RUN FOR IT!

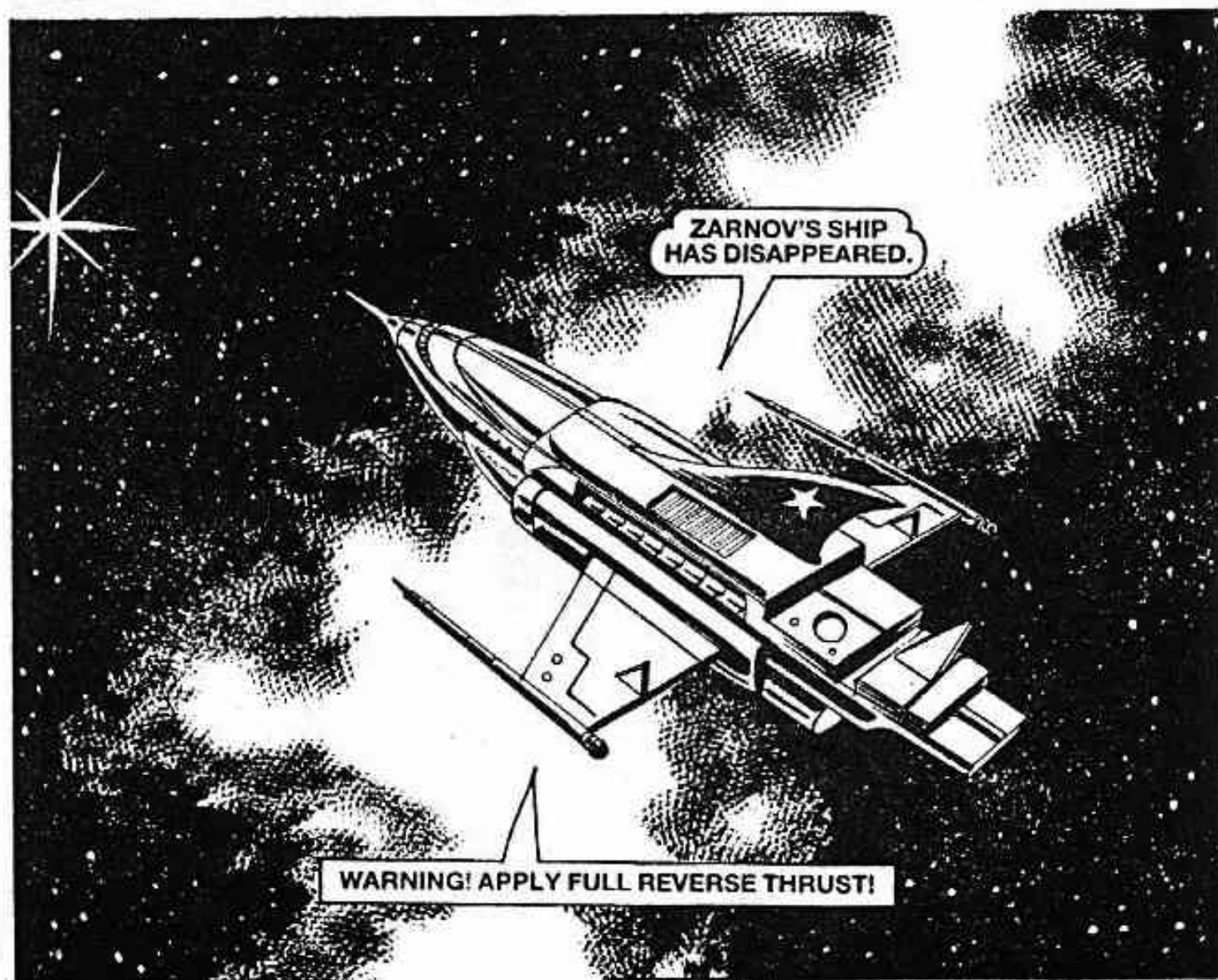
SHOOT HIM!

HE'S RIGHT YOU KNOW! HE NEVER
TERMINATED INNOCENTS. EVERY
SINGLE ONE WAS A CRIMO —
ONLY WE DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH
EVIDENCE TO ARREST THEM.

SO YOU LET
HIM GO?

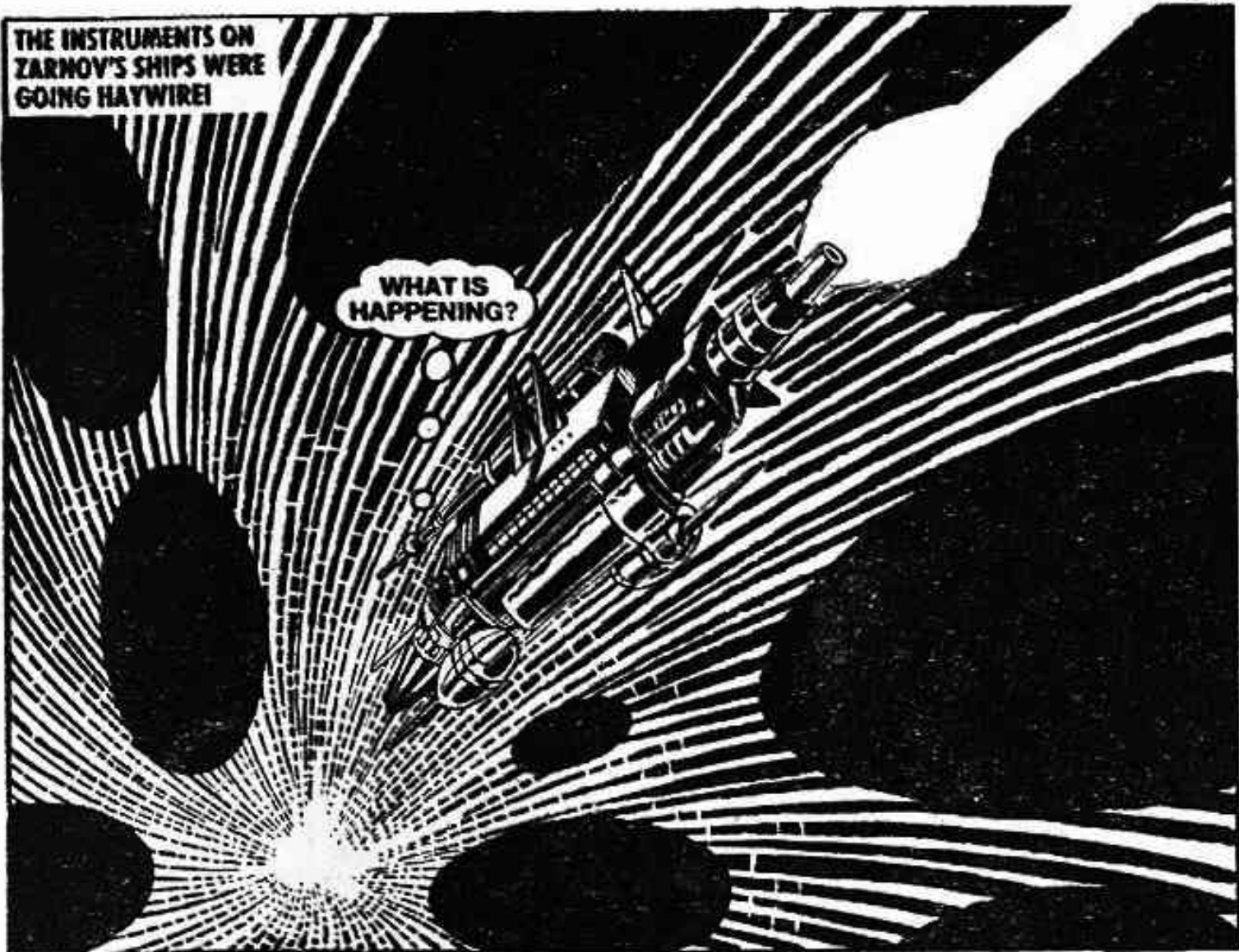
I DON'T KNOW! HE'S ONLY
DONE WHAT I WOULD HAVE
LEGALLY DONE EVENTUALLY.
I HAD A BADGE, HE DIDN'T!
BACK TO THE SHIP!





THE INSTRUMENTS ON
ZARNOV'S SHIPS WERE
GOING HAYWIRE!

WHAT IS
HAPPENING?



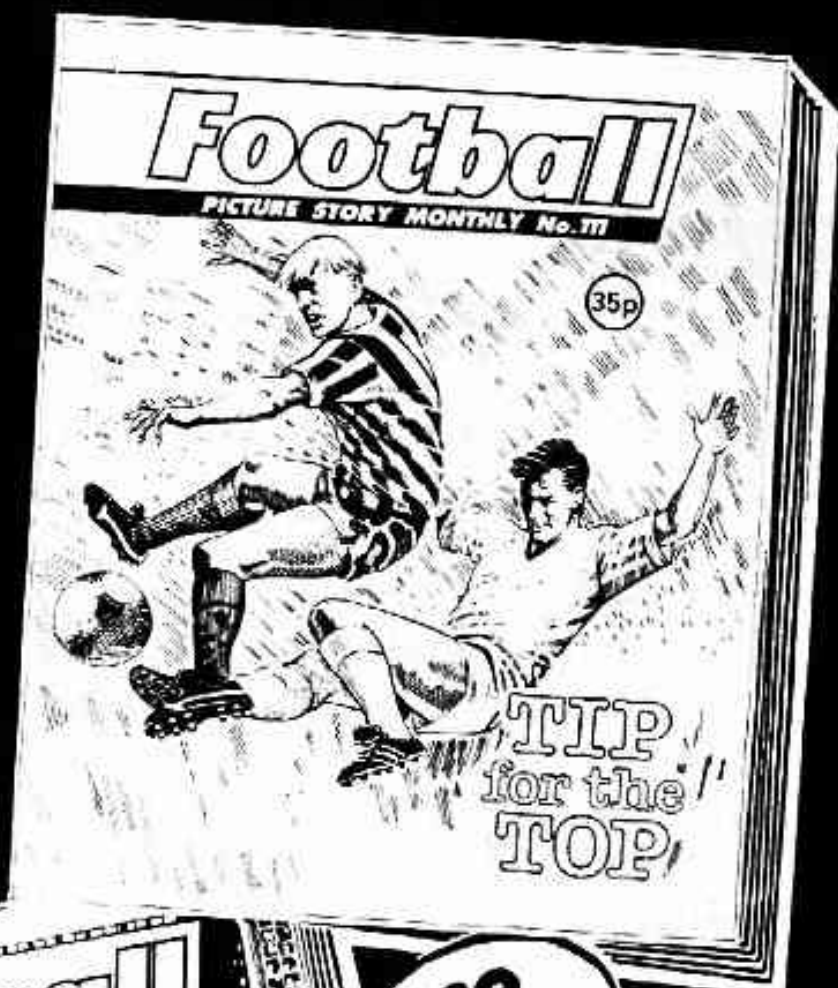
YOU LET
HIM ESCAPE!



ESCAPE IS NOT THE WORD I WOULD USE, NOLAN. WE WILL NEVER SEE ZARNOV AGAIN, FOR HE HAS ENTERED A PLACE WHERE THERE IS NO PAST, NO FUTURE, AND NO DIMENSION. IF HE EMERGES IT WILL BE INTO ANOTHER UNIVERSE OR TOTAL OBLIVION . . . NO ONE IS SURE. PERHAPS ONLY A MANDROID COULD SURVIVE SUCH A JOURNEY INTO THE UNKNOWN.



**IF YOU'RE
A
FOOTBALL
FAN, YOU
CAN'T
AFFORD
TO MISS
THESE!**



**68
PAGES
EACH**

**FOOTBALL
LIBRARIES
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NOW ON SALE 35p

CARTER and the CRAZIES

Francis Carter was a mandroid. A half man, half machine who was totally dedicated to preserving law and order. Not so much preserving it, more sort of clearing the galaxy of criminal garbage.

And criminal garbage didn't come much worse than the Rizzan twins, Kaleb and David, not to forget Ma, who massacred their way through the galaxy. The twins were finally captured, and sentenced to 120 years in a high security prison satellite . . . but the crazy couple had no intention of serving their sentence. They intended to use a contract killer to help them escape.

Zarnov was his name and he was a mandroid — a perfect match for Carter.

